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Application Serial No.: 09/384,371
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Comments in Response to Reasons for Allowance

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANTS : Brendan P. Murray *et al.* CONFIRMATION NO.: 7713
SERIAL NUMBER : 09/384,371 EXAMINER: Lamont M. Spooner
FILING DATE : August 27, 1999 ART UNIT: 2626
FOR : SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR EVALUATING CHARACTER SETS TO DETERMINE A
BEST MATCH ENCODING A MESSAGE

**COMMENTS IN RESPONSE TO EXAMINER'S
REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE**

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REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

A statement of reasons for indicating allowable subject matter was attached to the Notice of Allowance mailed October 16, 2006, for the above-identified application.

The Applicant appreciates the Notice of Allowance for all claims of the present application, but would like to note that each independent claim and each dependent claim is separately patentably distinguishable over the references relied upon by the Examiner, as such references do not disclose or render obvious the respective combinations of elements in each respective independent and each respective dependent claim.

For example, the references relied upon by the Examiner do not disclose, teach, or suggest a method of evaluating characters in a message against a character table bank according to Claim 1 of the present invention, which includes:

a plurality of pre-determined candidate character sets corresponding to a plurality of languages, the method comprising the steps of:

a) accepting an input of the message, wherein the message comprises one or more characters of the plurality of languages;

b) evaluating the message by individually comparing each of the characters of the message to the plurality of pre-determined candidate character sets in the character table bank to determine a match between the plurality of pre-determined candidate character sets and the message, wherein the step of comparing each of the characters of the message tests the ability of each of the plurality of pre-determined candidate character sets to express each of the characters of the message by performing a logical mask between a universal code for at least one of the characters of the message and an indicator in the character table bank indicating whether each of the plurality of pre-determined candidate character sets contains at least one of the characters of the message;

c) computing a weighted total number of characters matched to each of the plurality of pre-determined candidate character sets by applying a weighting factor to the total number of characters matched; and

d) selecting a best match between the message and the plurality of pre-determined candidate character sets by identifying the candidate character set corresponding to a pre-determined value for the weighted total number of characters matched.

Nor do the references relied upon by the Examiner disclose, teach, or suggest a system for evaluating characters in a message against a character table bank according to Claim 8 of the present invention, which includes:

a plurality of bit masks, said character table bank indexed by a particular character, said character table bank producing one of the bit masks that identifies one or more of a plurality of pre-determined candidate character sets capable of expressing said particular character, the system comprising:

an input interface to accept an input of the message, wherein the message includes a plurality characters in one or more languages; and

a processor unit, connected to the input interface, the processor unit evaluating the message by individually comparing each of the characters of the message to the plurality of pre-determined candidate character sets in the character table bank to determine a match between the plurality of pre-determined candidate character sets and the message, computing a weighted total number of characters matched to each of the plurality of pre-determined candidate character sets by applying a weighting factor to the total number of characters matched, and selecting a best match between the message and the plurality of pre-determined candidate character sets by identifying the candidate character set corresponding to a pre-determined value for the weighted total number of characters matched, wherein the processor unit evaluating the message tests the ability of each of the plurality of pre-determined candidate character sets to express at least one or more characters of the message by performing a logical operation between the bit masks that identify one or more of the plurality of pre-

determined candidate character sets expressing each of the characters of the message and a value of the one or more characters of the message.

Nor do the references relied upon by the Examiner disclose, teach, or suggest a system for evaluating characters in a message against a character table bank according to Claim 15 of the present invention, which includes:

a plurality of bit masks, said character table bank indexed by a particular character, said character table bank producing one of the bit masks that identifies one or more of a plurality of pre-determined candidate character sets capable of expressing said particular character, the system comprising:

input interface means to accept an input of the message, wherein the message includes a plurality characters in one or more languages; and processor means, connected to the input interface means, the processor means evaluating the message by individually comparing each of the characters of the message to the plurality of pre-determined candidate character sets in the character table bank to determine a match between the plurality of pre determined candidate character sets and the message, computing a weighted total number of characters matched to each of the plurality of pre-determined candidate character sets by applying a weighting factor to the total number of characters matched, and selecting a best match between the message and the plurality of pre-determined candidate character sets by identifying the candidate character set corresponding to a pre-determined value for the weighted total number of characters matched, wherein the processor means evaluating the message tests the ability of each of the plurality of pre-determined candidate character sets to express at

least one or more characters of the message by performing a logical operation between the bit masks that identify one or more of the plurality of pre-determined candidate character sets expressing each of the characters of the message and a value of the one or more characters of the message.

Nor do the references relied upon by the Examiner disclose, teach, or suggest a storage medium for storing machine readable code according to Claim 22 of the present invention, which includes:

the machine readable code being executable to evaluate characters in an electronic message to a character table bank, said character table bank including a plurality of bit masks, said character table bank indexed by a particular character, said character table bank producing one of the bit masks that identifies one or more of a plurality of pre-determined candidate character sets capable of expressing said particular character, the medium comprising the steps of:

a) accepting an input of the message, wherein the message includes a plurality of characters in one or more languages,

b) evaluating the message by individually comparing each of the characters of the message to the plurality of pre-determined candidate character sets in the character table bank to determine a match between the plurality of pre-determined candidate character sets and the message, wherein the evaluating the message tests the ability of each of the plurality of pre-determined candidate character sets to express at least one or more characters of the message by performing a logical operation between the bit masks that identify one or more of the plurality of pre-determined candidate character

sets expressing each of the characters of the message and a value of the one or more characters of the message;

c) computing a weighted total number of characters matched to each of the plurality of pre-determined candidate character sets by applying a weighting factor to the total number of characters matched; and

d) selecting a best match between the message and the plurality of pre-determined candidate character sets by identifying the candidate character set corresponding to a pre-determined value for the weighted total number of characters matched.

Nor do the references relied upon by the Examiner disclose, teach, or suggest a method of evaluating characters in a message according to Claim 29 of the present invention, which includes:

receiving a plurality of characters, the plurality of characters being associated with one or more languages;

providing each character in said plurality of characters to a character table bank;

receiving at least one indicator from said character table bank, wherein said character table bank receives a character as input and provides at least one indicator corresponding to a pre-determined character set in which said character as input can be rendered; and

comparing said at least one indicator for each character to determine a character set in which said plurality of characters can be rendered.

Nor do the references relied upon by the Examiner disclose, teach, or suggest a method of evaluating characters in a message against a character table bank according to Claim 32 of the present invention, which includes:

a plurality of pre-determined candidate character sets corresponding to a plurality of languages, the method comprising:

accepting an input of the message, wherein the message includes a plurality of characters associated with one or more languages;

individually comparing each of the characters of the message to said plurality of pre-determined candidate character sets in the character table bank to determine a match between each of the characters of the message and one or more of said plurality of pre-determined candidate character sets, wherein said comparing each of the characters of the message identifies one or more of said plurality of pre-determined candidate character sets capable of expressing each of the characters of the message; and

performing a logical operation among said identified pre-determined candidate character sets to determine said pre-determined candidate character sets best suited to express the message.

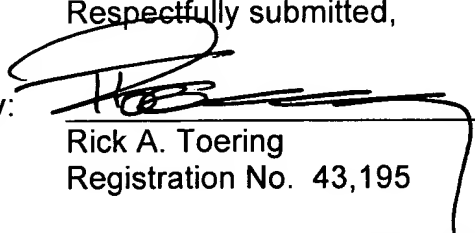
These comments, in response to the Examiner's reasons for indicating allowable subject matter, are timely submitted.

Please charge any fees associated with the submission of this paper to Deposit Account Number 033975 (Ref. No. 042846-0312827). The Commissioner for Patents is also authorized to credit any over payments to the above-referenced Deposit Account.

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Respectfully submitted,

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